

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application, of which claim 13 has been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claims 13-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Connolly et al. in view of Wenner et al. and Reddersen et al. (all previously applied).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-12 were allowed based on the amendment to claim 1 made in the Preliminary Amendment filed April 13, 2006, which essentially recites that the bar code contents are stored “only if the contents is management information” as now specifically claimed in claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 13 has been amended to recite a limitation similar to that added to claim 1 in the Preliminary Amendment filed on April 13, 2006.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-20, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants’ undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/748,232
Response to Office Action dated May 3, 2006

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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